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18 August 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DIRECTOR
 SUBJECT: Agenda For IAC Meeting 19 August

The two items on the agenda were both submitted by Mr. Armstrong. (1) the Watch Committee for the Possibility of Direct Soviet Military Action; and (2) the Four Problems as State sees them raised in NSC 50 on the Dulles Report.

Watch Committee

There is no existing (or) regular + special committee

CIA thinks the work suggested for such a Watch Committee is most desirable, but it also thinks that this is an important part of the regular work of CIA and that a special committee devoted only to this subject would be redundant, i.e., setting up another small CIA. The ad hoc committee could meet on this subject periodically and produce new reports like those which have already been issued. We, along with Secretary Johnson, look with disfavor on new interdepartmental committees and think that the normal day to day business and free flow of information among the IAC agencies can take care of such situations.

Four Problems

CIA can agree with many of the suggestions submitted and action proposed but would like to hear what the other IAC Members have to say on points raised in Mr. Armstrong's letter.

For reference purposes in case of need:--

CIA feels that clarification is needed on many of these recommendations: I.1.; I.3; I.4 and 4a; I.4b; I.4f; II.1b; II.2; III.2.; IV.1.

CIA feels that further study is needed on recommendation: I.4e; II.1 and 1a; II.1c; III.1.

PREScott CHILDS
Chief, ICAPS

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